

Antoinette Jackson
Principal | The Banks Law Firm
Houston, TX
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### **Work Locations**

Regional

### My company will cover travel costs?

Yes

# **Area of Expertise**

- DEI&B
- Legal

### **Topic/Details on Expertise**

Affordable Housing, Women and Minorities in Housing, DEIB Issues

## **Preferred Presentation Format**

- Conference Panel
- Virtual Presentation
- Keynote Speaker
- Podcast
- Motivational Speaker
- Empowerment Speaker

## **Speaker Description**

Antoinette "Toni" M. Jackson is a principal with The Banks Law Firm and has represented housing developers since 1992. Toni who has a strong commitment to community has enjoyed a law practice that has been the perfect marriage of practicing law and giving back to the community. Toni became a housing attorney at a time when it was not a recognized practice area after a nonprofit approached her about acquiring and financing an affordable development. Since that time, she has continued to represent for-profit and non-profit developers and public housing agencies in

commercial real estate development and affordable housing financing.

Ms. Jackson focuses her practice in mixed-finance transactions which include LIHTC and new markets tax credits, FHA financing, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac platforms and other specialized public funding sources. Toni also works on tax exempt bond transactions and transactions utilizing disaster recovery funding as well as the most recent community development financing tool utilizing Opportunity Zones and American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") Funds.

Toni has been a passionate advocate for affordable housing and throughout her career has worked extensively on efforts to increase home ownership and rental housing for low to moderate income families. She frequently serves as a speaker and guest lecturer in the area of affordable housing and community development law including disaster funding and recovery, housing choice/disparate impact issues and issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion. Ms. Jackson has published several articles and essays including a personal essay included in the ABA publication "GRIT, The Secret to Advancement: Stories of Success Women Lawyers" about being a minority in a major law firm. She also more recently published an article in the ABA Journal of Affordable Housing entitled, "The Race Conversation About Housing".

She is a former Chair of the Governing Committee of the American Bar Association (ABA) Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law and Past President of the Texas Affiliation of Affordable Housing Providers ("TAAHP"). Ms. Jackson is also a former board chair for Houston Habitat for Humanity ("HHFH") and was the first woman to serve in that role for the organization. Ms. Jackson is an active member of the Texas Spring Cypress (TX) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated and continues to volunteer with a number of other organizations on a local, state and national level.

Ms. Jackson has received numerous recognitions for her volunteerism, philanthropy, professional and community leadership. She most recently received the prestigious National Bar Association ("NBA") Heman Sweatt Award for embodying courage in the face of injustice. She is a recipient of the Jean MacDonald Lifetime Achievement in Housing by TAAHP and has been recognized by NBA Women Lawyers Division for her commitment to diversity as Outstanding Minority Partner in Majority Firm. She has also received the NBA's Wiley A. Branton Award for Civil Rights Advocacy. She is also a past recipient of The Carl Umland Award given by HHFH for service to the organization and the Houston community.

Toni currently is an adjunct professor at her alma mater, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Texas Southern University. She is also known for being a huge sports fan who can always be found yelling especially loud when supporting teams from her alma maters, University of Virginia (Cavaliers) and Texas Southern University (Tigers).